**PRESIDENT.**

Then let it stand over to the next meeting. Now, we will come to the next item, "Resolutions."

## Resolutions on matters of General Public Interest.

**Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON.**

The first resolution stands in the name of Mr. K. T. Mathew.

## The Introduction of Free Compulsory Primary Education amindst the so-called depressed classes.

**Mr. K. T. MATHEW.**

Sir, my resolution reads as follows:—

"*That this Council requests the Government to introduce free compulsory Primary education amidst the Tiyyas, Pulayas and other so-called depressed classes in the State*".

I very much regret to say that the resolution is not satisfactorily comprehensive. It should have been more comprehensively worded so as to make Primary education free and compulsory to all classes. The resolution was so narrowed down in its application that the Government might not raise any serious objection in accepting it, and in the opinion of this House, if the resolution is not comprehensive enough, any one of its members could bring forward an amendment in order to make it satisfactorily comprehensive. On my part, I am for giving free compulsory Primary education to boys and girls of all classes alike, but lest I should be called "an impracticable visionary or faddist" by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Department of Education, I refrained from widening the scope of the resolution.

Let me now explain my resolution. The resolution does not ask that Primary education should be made immediately free and compoulsory throughout the State. I know that elementary vernacular education is free in our State, and so the resolution asks primarily for introducing only another element, viz., compulsion, and that only with regard to some classes of people. Therefore, the request made to the Government is a very modest one, and it is one which could be accepted and carried out in practice. As there is no time-limit in the resolution for introducing compulsory education in all parts of the State, the Government can take a reasonable time for putting the resolution into effect throughout the State. In some parts of the State where the Tiyyas, Pulayas, and the so-called depressed classes live in large numbers, the resolution can soon be translated into action. The Government has accepted that education should be extended to those classes of people who have not been making full use of the educational facilities afforded by the Government, and it is, therefore, that the Government is giving

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